



## Working for the Residents and Businesses of Santa Maria

*Here are just a few of the key legislative issues I've worked on to help families and businesses in Santa Maria:*

- **Coastal Preservation** – Passed legislation to provide states with funding to acquire coastal lands from willing sellers threatened by development; in 2010 the County received \$1.2 million through this program to purchase property near the Guadalupe Dunes Preserve.
- **Expanding Healthcare** – Helped write and pass the Affordable Care Act which provided 34,000 people on the Central Coast with health care coverage for the first time and cut the local uninsured rate by 50%. Also have worked to improve the implementation by strengthening and improving the accuracy of provider networks and supporting increased subsidies for high-cost areas like the Central Coast.
- **Farm Bill** – Authored bipartisan provisions strengthening the integrity of the USDA organic label, and supported the inclusion of important specialty crop, organics, research, pest detection, and nutrition provisions backed by the California Farm Bureau and Central Coast growers in the final law.
- **Flower Growers** – Pushed the White House to feature American grown flowers at State dinners, founded the bipartisan Congressional Cut Flower Caucus, and built a broad bipartisan coalition in Congress to promote CA grown cut flowers and help local flower growers better compete in the global market.
- **Flood Protection** – Voted for legislation endorsed by the City to update current law so that local, state, and federal funding to improve levees is taken into account when determining flood zones.
- **Panga Boat Enforcement** – Worked to ensure local law enforcement eligibility for federal homeland security funding to combat panga boat drug trafficking and led Congressional efforts to fully fund the program.
- **School-Based Health Centers** – Passed legislation to establish and support school-based health clinics, like the existing program at Santa Maria High School.

- **Veterans** – Assisted numerous local veterans in security the care and benefits they've earned. Also passed bills to help veterans use their specialized skills to get jobs and reconstruct incomplete military records so that every veteran can access the benefits they deserve.

*At the request of local elected officials and business leaders in our community, I have helped secure federal support for important projects in Santa Maria:*

- **Marian Medical Center** – Funding to construct the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- **People's Self-Help Housing and Cabrillo Economic Development Center Housing Assistance** – Grants for foreclosure prevention counseling in Santa Maria
- **Santa Maria River Levees** – Over \$40 million for repairs to the levees
- **Santa Barbara County Foodbank** – Funding to expand the facility and install solar panels
- **Santa Maria Transit Center** – Millions to construct the transit Center and purchase new buses
- **Santa Maria Main Library** – Funding to expand the Main Library and complete work on the Children's and Youth Department
- **Santa Maria River Bridge** – Millions to widen bridge
- **Santa Maria Police Department** – Funds for the police department to hire more officers and make technology upgrades
- **Santa Maria Airport** – Grants to extend the airport's runway and make other safety improvements
- **People's Self-Help Housing and Cabrillo Economic Development Center Housing Assistance** – Grants for foreclosure prevention counseling in Santa Maria